

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

App. No. : 10/708,400 Confirmation No. 2399  
Applicant : Takaya Otsuki et al.  
Filed : March 1, 2004  
T.C./A.U. : 2835  
Examiner : Biju Indira Chandran  
Docket No. : 18.017-AG  
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.113 and 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Office action of March 21, 2006, made final, in the above-identified patent application, Applicants request entry of the following amendment, which revises the claims to distinguish the present invention, yet does not raise any new issues. (This reply is being filed on June 21, 2006, and is therefore timely filed.)

**AMENDMENT Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121**

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.